

Requirements for Credentialing Practitioners Conducting Behavioral Health Assessments and/or Serving as Clinical Liaisons

Type of Clinician	Credentials Required for Performing Assessments or Serving as Clinical Liaison	Procedure for Credentialing
Behavioral Health Professionals (BHPs)		
<p>State licensed behavioral health professionals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychiatrist • Psychologist • Physician (MD and DO) • Nurse Practitioner (NP) • Physician Assistant (PA) 	<p>Credentials required are the same as those required for the general credentialing of these practitioners as behavioral health service providers and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed by applicable state licensing board • Drug Enforcement Agency or Controlled Dangerous Substances certification as applicable • Board Certification if applicable or highest level of credentials obtained. <p>In addition per OBHL rules, NPs, PAs and physicians (non-psychiatrists) all must have one year of BH work experience.</p>	<p>Procedures for credentialing are the same as that required for the general credentialing of these practitioners as behavioral health service providers and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • Work history • Primary source verifications (licensure, DEA/CDS certification, board certification, history of professional liability claims, NPDB query, disciplinary status with regulatory board and Medicare/Medicaid sanctions)
<p>Certified independent masters level therapists who are registered with AHCCCS to bill independently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Social Worker • Marriage and Family Therapist • Professional Counselor 	<p>Credentials required are the same as those required for the general credentialing of these practitioners as behavioral health service providers and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification by Board of Behavioral Health Examiners (BH Examiners) 	<p>Procedures for credentialing are the same as that required for the general credentialing of these practitioners as behavioral health service providers and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • Work history • Primary source verifications (certification from BH Examiners, complaints/ disciplinary status with BH Examiners, history of professional liability claims, Medicare/Medicaid sanctions)

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Behavioral Health Professional (con't)		
<p>Other certified/licensed behavioral health professionals including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent Social Worker (if not registered with AHCCCS to bill independently) Marriage and Family Therapist (if not registered with AHCCCS to bill independently) Professional Counselor (if not registered with AHCCCS to bill independently) MA Social Worker BA Social Worker Associate Counselor Associate Marriage and Family Therapist Substance Abuse Counselor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RN with 1 year of BH work experience 	<p>Only those practitioners who will be performing assessments and/or serving as a clinical liaison will need to be credentialed. Credentials required include:</p> <p>Certification by BH Examiners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent Social Worker Marriage and Family Therapist Professional Counselor MA Social Worker BA Social Worker Associate Counselor Associate Marriage and Family Therapist Substance Abuse Counselor * <p>*Substance Abuse Counselors may also be certified by Arizona Board of Certified Addiction Counselors.</p> <p>For RN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensure by Board of Nursing 1 year BH work experience (per OBHL rules) 	<p>Procedures for credentialing these practitioners would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Work history Primary source verification (certification from BH Examiners or Board of Nursing, complaints/disciplinary status with BH Examiners or Board of Nursing)

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Behavioral Health Technicians (BHTs)		
<p>Non-licensed behavioral health technicians may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA in BH related field • BA in BH related field • MA in non BH related field • BA in non BH related field • Associate Degree in BH related field • Associate Degree in non BH related field 	<p>Only those practitioners who will be performing assessments and/or serving as a clinical liaison will need to be credentialed.</p> <p>For these behavioral health technicians credentials required include the following combination of education and BH work experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA in BH related field • BA in BH related field* and 2 yrs BH work experience • MA in non BH related field and 30 semester hours in BH education** and 2 yrs BH work experience • BA in non BH related field and 30 semester hours in BH education** and 4 yrs BH work experience • Associate Degree in BH related field* and 4 yrs BH work experience • Associate Degree in non BH related field and 30 semester hours** in BH education and 5 yrs BH work experience <p>*Behavioral health related field includes psychology, sociology/social work, counseling (including chemical dependency), nursing, occupational/recreational therapy and other medical fields with focus on behavioral health.</p> <p>**See list of acceptable BH course work in the Provider Manual Section 3.20 Credentialing and Privileging Form 3.20.1</p>	<p>Only those practitioners who will be performing assessments and/or serving as a clinical liaison will need to be credentialed.</p> <p>Procedures for credentialing non-licensed behavioral health technicians include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • Work history • Primary source verification (educational degree and/or course work in BH)

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Behavioral Health Technicians (con't)		
<p>Licensed behavioral health technicians may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physician Assistant <u>not</u> working as medical practitioner 	<p>For licensed behavioral health technicians credentials required include the following:</p> <p>Physician Assistants not working as medical practitioner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensed by Board of Physician Assistants and 2 years of BH work experience 	<p>Only those practitioners who will be performing assessments and/or serving as a clinical liaison will need to be credentialed.</p> <p>Procedures for credentialing licensed behavioral health technicians include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Work history Primary source verification (licensure from Board of Physician Assistants, complaints/ disciplinary status with Board of Physician Assistants)